

Claim Amendments

1. (currently amended) A coiled tubing injector apparatus comprising:
 - a base;
 - a pair of opposed gripper chain systems mounted to and extending upwardly from the base, each gripper chain system including a gripper chain for engaging coiled tubing; and
 - a wetting fluid basin containing a wetting fluid, wherein the coiled tubing passes through the wetting fluid basin when the coiled tubing is being injected into or withdrawn from a well;

wherein:

 - the base is connected to a stuffing box;
 - the base defines a portion of the wetting fluid basin; and
 - the stuffing box defines a portion of the wetting basin.
2. (original) The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wetting fluid basin is positioned below the gripper chains.
3. (original) The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1 further comprising fluid level means for maintaining a minimum fluid level in the wetting fluid basin.
4. (currently amended) ~~The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 3~~ A coiled tubing injector apparatus comprising:
 - a base;
 - a pair of opposed gripper chain systems mounted to and extending upwardly from the base, each gripper chain system including a gripper chain for engaging coiled tubing; and

a wetting fluid basin containing a wetting fluid, wherein the coiled tubing passes through the wetting fluid basin when the coiled tubing is being injected into or withdrawn from a well;
and

fluid level means for maintaining a minimum fluid level in the wetting fluid basin;

wherein:

the fluid level means comprises a float valve in fluid communication with the wetting fluid basin; and

the float valve actuates a wetting fluid pump to provide wetting fluid to the wetting fluid basin when the fluid level in the wetting fluid basin reaches the minimum fluid level.

5. (currently amended) ~~The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:~~
A coiled tubing injector apparatus comprising:

a base;

a pair of opposed gripper chain systems mounted to and extending upwardly from the base, each gripper chain system including a gripper chain for engaging coiled tubing;

a wetting fluid basin containing a wetting fluid, wherein the coiled tubing passes through the wetting fluid basin when the coiled tubing is being injected into or withdrawn from a well;

a wetting fluid reservoir;

a flow line connecting the wetting fluid reservoir to the wetting fluid basin; and

a pump connected to the flow line for pumping wetting fluid from the wetting fluid reservoir to the wetting fluid basin.

6. (original) The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1 wherein:

the coiled tubing injector apparatus is positioned above a stuffing box having a seal therein for sealingly engaging the coiled tubing; and

the stuffing box seal comprises a lower end of the wetting fluid basin.

7. (currently amended) ~~The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:~~

A coiled tubing injector apparatus comprising:

a base;

a pair of opposed gripper chain systems mounted to and extending upwardly from the base, each gripper chain system including a gripper chain for engaging coiled tubing;

a wetting fluid basin containing a wetting fluid, wherein the coiled tubing passes through the wetting fluid basin when the coiled tubing is being injected into or withdrawn from a well;

a float valve operably associated with the wetting fluid basin, wherein the float valve comprises a float connected to a float switch; and

a pump connected to a wetting fluid reservoir;

wherein:

when the wetting fluid reaches a minimum desired fluid level in the wetting fluid basin, the float valve actuates the pump to supply wetting fluid from the wetting fluid reservoir to the wetting fluid basin; and

when the fluid level in the wetting fluid basin reaches a maximum desired fluid level, the float valve deactivates said pump.

8. (original) The coiled tubing injector apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a pair of separable carriages extending upwardly from the base, wherein each carriage includes one of the gripper chain systems.

9. (cancelled).

10. (currently amended) A wetting system for applying a wetting fluid to a coiled tubing being injected into a well by a coiled tubing injector apparatus, comprising a wetting fluid basin for holding the wetting fluid, wherein:

the coiled tubing injector apparatus comprises a base;

at least a portion of the wetting fluid basin is defined by the base; and

the wetting fluid basin is positioned so that the coiled tubing passes therethrough prior to being injected into the well.

11. (original) The wetting system of claim 10 further comprising an automatic level control for maintaining a level of the wetting fluid between a desired minimum level and a desired maximum level.

12. (original) The wetting system of claim 10 wherein:

the coiled tubing injector apparatus comprises a pair of opposed gripper chains for engaging the coiled tubing; and

the wetting fluid basin is positioned below the opposed gripper chains.

13. (currently amended) ~~The wetting system of claim 12~~ A wetting system for applying a wetting fluid to a coiled tubing being injected into a well by a coiled tubing injector apparatus comprising:

a wetting fluid basin for holding a wetting fluid, wherein the wetting fluid basin is positioned so that the coiled tubing passes therethrough prior to being injected into said well; and
wherein:

the coiled tubing injector apparatus ~~further~~ comprises a base and a pair of opposed gripper chains for engaging the coiled tubing;

the wetting fluid basin is positioned below the opposed gripper chains;

the gripper chains are positioned above the base; and

at least a portion of the wetting fluid basin is defined by the base.

14. (original) The wetting system of claim 13 wherein the wetting fluid basin is partially defined by a stuffing box connected to the base.